

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL**

September 15, 2004

ATTENDEES:

Joseph E. Jozefczyk, Braddock District
Michael Champness, Alternate, Dranesville District
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District
Lula Bauer, Lee District
Barbara R. Lowrey, Mason District
Wesley M. Viilo, Jr., Mt. Vernon District
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Roger Sims, Springfield District
David Lacey, Sully District
Elizabeth T. Bradsher, Member-At-Large
Robert L. Panek, Fairfax County Girls' Fast Pitch Softball
Rob Hahne, Alternate, Fairfax County Baseball/Softball Council
Tom Moore, Fairfax County Youth Basketball Council
Deborah B. Honaker, Fairfax County Soccer Advisory Council
Tricia Johnson, Fairfax County Volleyball Council
Paul Jansen, Fairfax County School Board
Patricia Franckewitz, Department of Community and Recreation Services
Christopher Leonard, Department of Community and Recreation Services
Karen Avvisato, Department of Community and Recreation Services
Brian Dreyer, Department of Community and Recreation Services

ABSENTEES:

Roger Smith, Dranesville District
J. Marcelo Gangotena, Diversity-At-Large
Jeffrey E. Stein, Town of Clifton
Jerry Carter, Town of Herndon
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna
Carl Coan, Fairfax County Adult Softball Council
Mark Meana, Fairfax County Football Board of Commissioners
Bill Harvey, Fairfax County Lacrosse Council
Jacqueline Y. Stephens, Fairfax County Women's Sports Programs
George Lovelace, Fairfax County Park Authority

GUESTS: Sally Entlich, Fairfax County Women's Sports Programs

Meeting Opening – The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Roll call was taken.
A quorum was present.

Citizens to Address Council – None

Presentations –

Fairfax County Park Authority Bond Referendum - Mr. Tim White, Deputy Director, Fairfax County Park Authority, stated that the 2004 Bond Referendum will be voted on on November 2. Handouts were given on general information for this bond and also some specific information on the athletic development, if the bond passes.

Mr. Ted Zavora, manager, Financial Planning Branch, FCPA, stated that the last Park Bond was in 1998 and that \$50 million had been earmarked by the Board of Supervisors. He stated that over the next ten years they would need over \$376 million to meet their contribution levels. This current bond will cover a four-year period. When the needs assessment was done, they realized they needed approximately \$111 million. This caused a dilemma: what to do with the \$50 million? As a result of the public hearings the Board of Supervisors raised the dollar amount to \$65 million for the FCPA portion. The referendum will actually be for \$75 million. The additional \$10 million will be for the Regional Park Authority. He referenced the handouts that explained what was proposed for our portion. Mr. Zavora stated that a project work plan would be developed and that usually the projects taking a longer period of time were started first. Mr. Zavora stated that most of the projects that still needed public hearings had master plans. Mr. Zavora talked about Popes Head Estates and stated that the Park Authority had earmarked \$3.5 million for fields. Mr. Zavora confirmed that there were, in fact, two fields at Mason District Park.

Administrative Items - No minutes

Committee Reports

Bylaws/Sports Council Operating Guidelines – Mr. McLaughlin handed out some information on this report and proceeded with a general overview. He stated that Ms. Sally Entlich was the chair for this committee, but she had been replaced on the Council by Ms. Jacqueline Stephens. Mr. McLaughlin further discussed the draft bylaws and mentioned that the three at-large positions (the women's representative, the diversity representative, and the at-large representative) were turned into two at-large positions. There was more discussion as to what to name the positions whether they be two or three positions. Since the FCAC now has the women's sports representative, it would have three at-large members. Mr. McLaughlin discussed how this would work and what would be their duties.

In discussing the documents handed out regarding the by-laws and standard operating procedures, Mr. McLaughlin stated that the only real issue before the FCAC was how many at-large positions there should be and what the names should be. Mr. Sims stated that the bigger issues were the sports councils, particularly volleyball, and if such sports should have a threshold of participants before they were given a seat on the Council.

Mr. McLaughlin pointed out that on page 4 of the SOP proposal there were five criteria that the Board of Supervisors should use in deciding whether to add a position to the Council. A suggestion was made that as demographics change, make it the top eight positions, and then if you are not in the top eight, you would have to revert to the at-large representative.

Ms. Franckewitz suggested having one at-large representative and collapsing the women's representative with the diversity representative and making the other two as one indoor representative and one outdoor representative to cover some of the smaller organizations or sports so they would have some representation. Ms. Franckewitz pointed out that there were only two requests for seats on the Council at this time: one from cricket and one from wrestling.

Mr. McLaughlin explained the makeup of the Council and how members should be more active in the community. Ms. Entlich stated that a suggestion had been made that a Council member serve on a dispute resolution committee. It was decided that the FCAC should not be involved; however it was clarified that the Council would be the last medium to help with a dispute. Mr. Sims suggested that each sports organization should have a representative as a liaison or a co-member but not a voting member. He suggested a liaison between the sports council and the magisterial district representative. Ms. Franckewitz recommended that the magisterial representative not be affiliated with the specific sport; otherwise there would not be an unbiased representation.

Discussion continued about the ratio of the districts. Mr. McLaughlin pointed out one section of the SOP, page 4, under "conflicts of interest" stated that "Members should not have a financial interest in issues that come before the Council, avoiding the appearance of it is recommended that members not be paid employees of sports organizations or other suppliers who receive compensation for activities or matters that may come before the Council."

A discussion then ensued regarding statements by members of the FCAC allegedly on behalf of the Athletic Council. Language was offered that would make clear that only the Chairman or his designated representative could speak on behalf of the Council and that the Chairman would make reasonable efforts to ensure that the Council had approved of the message being sent.

At the conclusion of the entire discussion, Mr. McLaughlin stated that he would make revisions to all documents consistent with the guidance provided at the meeting and redistribute a new draft prior to the next meeting.

Matters of Interest

Board of Supervisors – Nothing

Fairfax County School Board – Mr. Jansen stated that Fairfax County Public Schools had just recently hired Mark Emery as the Coordinator for the After-School Programs. There had been \$950,000 set aside from the budget to address at-risk students in the six, seventh, and eighth grades. There were three components that the system was looking at: athletics, academic enrichment, and social pillar. Mr. Emery, a former member of the School Board, is very sensitive to what the Council is involved with. After discussion, Ms. Franckewitz advised that Mr. Emery had agreed to come to an FCAC meeting. She felt that Mr. Emery was a good hire for the Schools and was familiar with CRS and its programs.

Fairfax County Park Authority – Nothing

Community and Recreation Services – Ms. Franckewitz introduced two new employees of CRS: Ashlee Currie, who will coordinate the North County fields and Chris Pulley, who will be coordinating the South County gyms. CRS has also hired an exempt-limited term employee, Dave Morgan, formerly with FCPS, who will act as a liaison between the schools, will revamp the Building Directors' Program and will work on the girls' softball issues. She also noted that Ms. Cigler was working with Department of Information Technology for an on-line application process and she hoped to have it operational by the summer scheduling season. Ms. Avvisato explained that the county was moving forward toward a regional structure and was divided accordingly; therefore, CRS will be able to help a resident with scheduling at any time. Ms. Franckewitz reiterated that the reorganization of the whole agency would allow us to be more flexible in our service delivery.

She also noted that Mr. Lavelle was retiring on September 24. Mr. Lavelle had been with CRS for about 12 years and with the county for a little over 20.

Old Business -

Sports Subsidy – Mr. Sims said he had a meeting with Ms. Franckewitz to get some guidance and he wanted to confirm with people that they would meet either next week or before the end of this month on this committee.

Wrestling - This organization has requested that it be included in subsidies for officiating fees. Mr. Sims moved to include wrestling in the sports subsidy fees as recommended by CRS. A question was raised about the criteria that the sports organizations have to submit first. Since they did meet the criteria, no vote was required. Mr. Sims withdrew his motion.

New Business - Mr. McLaughlin passed out a list of committees for the coming year and asked the members to let him know which committee they wanted to serve on. He also stated that they could add an issue to the priority list.

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Adjournment – On motion, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Donnelly
Administrative Assistant
Department of Community and Recreation Services